

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region I
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Monday, August 09, 2004
From: Frank Gardner, On-Scene Coordinator

Subject: Initiation of Action
Lonsdale Bleachery
Carrington Street, Lincoln, RI
Latitude: 41.9111
Longitude: -71.4067

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:	Z1AK
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:	7/30/2004	Response Authority:	OPA
Mob Date:	7/30/2004	Response Type:	Emergency
Completion Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
CERCLIS ID #:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
RCRIS ID #:		Contract #	
FPN#	EO4116	Reimbursable Account #	01R0XAK302D91CZ1K

Site Description

The Site is the location of the Lonsdale Bleachery, a large former industrial mill located on the banks of the Blackstone River off Carrington Street in Lincoln, Phode Island. An industrial grade heating oil (possibly #4 or #6) is seeping out of a granite block retaining wall and into the River. The nature and extent of the source of this oil remains under investigation, but may be related to three large, abandoned, aboveground oil storage tanks located within the former Lonsdale Bleachery mill complex.

Current Activities

On July 30, 2004, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) discovered the seepage while investigating an unknown sheen observed downriver. DEM notified the National Response Center and EPA and mobilized its contractor to the Site. DEM and its contractor initiated emergency response activities on July 30 to collect the oil and stop the further seepage of oil into the River by deploying containment and sorbents.

On August 2, 2004, EPA opened a Federal Project Number and prepared a Pollution Removal Funding Authorization (PRFA) for the Site using the authorities of the Oil Pollution Act.

Pursuant to DEM's request for support with ongoing emergency response activities, EPA OSCs Gardner and Nalipinski conducted a site walk with DEM on August 5, 2004, to observe site conditions, review DEM response actions to date, and discuss the scope of planned response activities.

On August 10, 2004, DEM and its contractor conducted exploratory excavations behind the retaining wall to document subsurface conditions and identify possible sources of the oil. Free

phase oil was observed on the water table, possibly migrating from the area of the abandoned oil storage tanks, located further uphill.

Planned Removal Actions

DEM will continue to monitor for ongoing seepage of oil and deploy additional containment and sorbents as necessary. DEM, with support from EPA, will also conduct further investigative actions as necessary to determine the source of the oil.

DEM and EPA will conduct a title search to determine current ownership of the property and identify Responsible Parties. EPA will notify Responsible Parties in writing of their liabilities under the Oil Pollution Act and negotiate to have RPs take over and complete the cleanup as soon as possible.

Key Issues

During emergency response activities related to the oil release, possible asbestos-containing material (ACM) was observed on exterior piping in a vacant portion of the mill building. EPA is currently in the process of obtaining site access under CERCLA in order to conduct a removal site investigation to evaluate this possible ACM and other CERCLA-related issues that may be present at the Site.

www.epaosc.net/LonsdaleBleachery